TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 1, 1992 -- For the second time in the past three weeks, the nation's railroads have set a weekly record for intermodal traffic, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today.

In all, intermodal traffic totaled 147,623 trailers and containers during the week ended September 26, breaking by 3.1 percent the record set in the week ended September 21. Last week's total was 8.4 percent above the total reported during the comparable 1991 week.

Although intermodal traffic was up sharply last week, other railroad traffic indices declined from year-earlier levels, noted Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's Economics and Finance Department. "This represents a continuation of a trend that dates back to the beginning of the third quarter," he added.

Carloadings, which do not include intermodal, totaled 337,000 during the week, down 3.9 percent from the comparable 1991 week. The AAR estimated total traffic for the week ended September 26 at 21.3 billion ton-miles, down 2.3 percent from 1991.

For the first 39 weeks of 1992, railroads originated 12,598,680 carloads of freight, up 1 percent from the first 39 weeks of 1991. Intermodal traffic totaled 4,920,988 trailers and containers, up 7.3 percent. Total traffic was estimated at 792.5 billion ton-miles, up 2.7 percent from the first 39 weeks of 1991.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 94 percent of carloadings and 97 percent of intermodal volume.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 26, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 26, 1992	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,304	29,645	-11.3 %	25,375	3.7 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,558	2,602	-40.1	1,272	22.5
Metallic Ores	16,224	18,086	-10.3	17,047	-4.8
Coal	126,984	133,372	-4.8	129,583	-2.0
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	15,626	14,773	5.8	16,407	-4.8
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,733	9,979	-12.5	9,662	-9.6
Grain Mill Products	9,989	9,849	1.4	10,009	-0.2
Food & Kindred Products	9,437	9,459	-0.2	9,509	-0.8
Primary Forest Products	9,438	9,609	-1.8	9,616	-1.9
Lumber & Wood Products	5,870	5,996	-2.1	5,685	3.3
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,693	10,360	3.2	11,122	-3.9
Chemicals	29,042	28,545	1.7	29,274	-0.8
Petroleum Products	5,626	5,611	0.3	5,853	-3.9
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,325	9,667	6.8	10,515	-1.8
Coke	5,765	5,261	9.6	5,732	0.6
Metals & Products	10,026	11,082	-9.5	9,487	5.7
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,856	19,634	1.1	18,485	7.4
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,726	8,847	-1.4	8,941	-2.4
All Other Carloads	6,778	8,270	-18.0	6,183	9.6
Total	**337,000**	**350,647**	**-3.9 %**	**339,757**	**-0.8 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 26, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 39 WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 26, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	337,000	350,647	-3.9 %	12,598,680	12,468,269	1.0 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	75,179	71,086	5.8	2,436,616	2,353,396	3.5
Containers	72,444	65,063	11.3	2,484,372	2,230,773	11.4
Total	147,623	136,149	8.4	4,920,988	4,584,169	7.3
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	21.3	21.8	-2.3 %	792.5	771.9	2.7 %

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